

Trees on Maine Street

❧ *The Project Canopy Bulletin* ❧



November—December 2012

Project Canopy, TD Bank and ACTrees Plant 50 Trees along Portland's Bayside Trail

Portland, Maine – Staff and volunteers with Project Canopy, the Maine Forest Service's urban forest program, were joined on October 4th by employees from TD Bank, Portland Trails, City of Portland and Alliance for Community Trees (ACTrees) at the Bayside Trail to participate in TD Tree Days, a cooperative effort to plant new trees in local communities.

More than 50 volunteers braved the rain and wind to spend three hours planting 50 trees along a half-mile section of the Bayside Trail. The planting session is part of a nationwide program sponsored by TD Bank and ACTrees to plant trees in communities from Maine to Florida during the month of October, according to Jan Ames Santerre, Project Canopy coordinator.

Project Canopy is a cooperative partnership between the Maine Forest Service, under the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (ACF), and GrowSmart Maine, a statewide organization that supports sustainable prosperity.

ACF Commissioner Walt Whitcomb, State Senator Justin Alford, State Representative Ben Chipman, Portland City Councilor Nick Mavodones, City Planner Alex Jaagerman and TD Bank representatives Larry Wold and Brad Pierce spoke to the crowd and accepted a plaque from ACTrees commemorating the day.

"We are all very grateful to TD Bank for its investment of time and resources in improving the Bayside area of Portland," Santerre said. "We are proud to partner with Project Canopy, the City of Portland, Portland Trails and ACTrees to help enhance the local environment," said Diana Glassman, TD Bank vice president and head of environmental affairs. "At TD Bank, we are passionate about the environment, and we are thrilled that so many volunteers are coming together to re-introduce trees to the Bayside Trail."

TD Bank has donated \$19,000 toward the planting project. Volunteers planted 50 trees along a half-mile section of the Bayside Trail, which over the years, has turned a former industrial area into a livable, walk-able, vibrant urban entity. Additional trail plans include pocket parks, gardens, shade trees, and public gathering areas to serve as a focal point for cultural activities and community programs. The project also has received support through material donations from Oakhurst Dairy and Poland Springs, Santerre said.

While some planting has taken place, the City of Portland, Trust for Public Land, and the local trails organization, Portland Trails, still are looking for funding to reach those goals. In its completion, the trail will contribute to the economic vitality of the city, and improve the quality of life for the tens of thousands of residents, workers, and visitors, according to officials. The TD Tree Days program will enable the city and its partners to complete their vision for the Bayside Trail. The additional trees will help the trail and the surrounding environment with shade in the summer months, as well as screen and soften the urban uses adjacent to the trail. The addition of 50 trees to the area will have a significant impact on the quality of life for these neighborhoods.

The Alliance for Community Trees (ACTrees) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health and livability of cities by planting and caring for trees.

TD Bank is one of the 10 largest banks in the U.S., providing nearly 8 million customers with a retail, small business and commercial banking products and services at more than 1,280 locations throughout the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Metro D.C., the Carolinas and Florida.

For more information about Project Canopy, go to: www.projectcanopy.me. For more information about ACTrees, go to: www.ACTrees.org. For more information, about TD Bank, go to: www.tdbank.com.

PROJECT CANOPY

assists communities and nonprofit, grassroots organizations in building self-sustaining urban and community forestry programs with strong local support.

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News and Updates

Forest & Shade Tree - Insect Conditions for Maine

Asian Longhorned Beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*) – A recent expansion of the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) quarantine in Ohio was linked to the movement of firewood from the area around the original infestation point. The firewood movement happened prior to the detection of ALB in Ohio. This infestation illustrates the importance of limiting movement of firewood even from areas thought to be free from invasive species and of monitoring places with historic “risky” activities for the introduction of invasive species. Asian longhorned beetle still has not been found in Maine, but people are looking for it! Models predict that peak emergence of adult ALB in Maine would be in late August or early September. Adults are active in the fall until at least the first hard frost.

For more information on ALB in Ohio, see: <http://www.agri.ohio.gov/topnews/asianbeetle/>.

Elongate Hemlock Scale (*Fiorinia externa*) – A follow-up survey of hemlock woolly adelgid infested trees in Northeast Harbor revealed a co-infestation of elongate hemlock scale (Mount Desert, Hancock County). The scale was found on both planted fir and hemlock. The trees originated from a nursery in Connecticut and have been in the ground for more than a decade. There is quite a bit of native host (balsam fir) in the area that is at risk from the EHS.

Back down the coast in Yarmouth (Cumberland County), an arborist (and subscriber to this publication) reported elongate hemlock scale on planted hemlocks; samples from the site were submitted.

Under most conditions, close examination of the host is required to detect this pest. Heavy populations in planted trees can sometimes be recognized from a distance. Photos and more information can be found at: www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/EH_Scale.htm.

Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) – Emerald ash borer (EAB) was detected in a second New England state. On August 31, this serious pest of ash was found in Dalton (Berkshire County), Massachusetts. The infestation was found as part of the nationwide purple trap survey and highlights the value of both the survey and the ban on out-of-state firewood. Mainers should be concerned about the nearness of this most recent find and continue to look for signs of ash attacked by woodborers. In Maine, formal monitoring for

"Good timber does not grow with ease; the stronger the wind, the stronger the trees."

- J. Willard Marriott

EAB is wrapping up for the season. Purple trap removal is nearly complete, and no EAB has been found.

Hickory Tussock Moth (*Lophocampa caryae*) – Bug Maine-ia attendees offered a glimpse into the knowledge of Maine residents about this pest. Bug Maine-ia is an annual event at the Maine State Museum that provides hands-on activities related to insects (and relatives) for school children and their adult chaperones. This year more than 2,300 people attended the event. Most visitors to the MFS table recognized the hickory tussock moth caterpillars we had in captivity and commented on their ability to cause rashes. This may help explain why calls about this caterpillar were down, even though caterpillar populations were still high this year. Despite the higher than normal numbers the hardwood defoliation has been minimal.

Pine Leaf Adelgid (*Pineus pinifoliae*) – These adelgids have a complex life cycle that takes two years to complete with two hosts, white pine and spruce – both red and black. Shoot damage on pine is caused by heavy feeding by the nymphs. It is usually heavier every other year, due to the nature of the life cycle.

Damage was observed this summer along the Golden Road and in the Scientific Forest Management Area of Baxter State Park. Generally damage from this pest is not considered severe, but occasionally significant damage to established trees occurs. It is a pest worth watching if you manage for pine in areas with a heavy spruce component.

Saddled prominent/green striped mapleworm/variable oakleaf caterpillar complex (*Heterocampa guttivitta*, *Dryocampa rubicunda*, *Lochmaeus manteo* and others) – Like the hickory tussock, many other hardwood defoliator populations were up this year. A wide range of species was observed but defoliation was insignificant in all areas of the state.

Winter Moth (*Operophtera brumata*) – If you live in areas most at risk for winter moth invasion, make a note to monitor for the adult male moths in late fall and early winter. Areas most at risk for winter moth are communities with a large second-home component with owners from Massachusetts. This is because eastern MA is heavily infested with winter moth, and the cocoons can be transported in the soil of landscape plants brought to Maine. Winter moths tend to fly later than the native Maine fall moths; generally occurring from late November to early January.

The adult males will be attracted to outdoor lights and even to light from your windows. If you see the moths flitting around hardwood trees, take a closer look for the tiny (~1/4 -inch) wingless females on the trunk. In any case, try to collect a sample if you see moths after Thanksgiving that match the description of winter moth.

We are putting in place plans to monitor the current known winter moth populations in Maine and are looking for native control options. We are also working with MA and the USDA to begin steps to reduce the population using the biocontrol agent, *Cyzenis albicans*. This is a small, parasitic fly specific to winter moth that has proved successful in managing winter moth in Nova Scotia for decades. ♡

"A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in."
- Greek Proverb

Balsam Fir, *Abies balsamea*

Balsam fir occurs statewide and is the most abundant tree in the state. It is frequently found in damp woods and on well-drained hillsides, and often occurs in thickets. The tree normally forms a sharp spire to a height of 60–70 feet and grows to 12–20 inches in diameter. On young trees, the branches are horizontal, slender, and produced in regular whorls to form a strikingly symmetrical crown.

In old age, the top is often slim, regular and spire-like. The bark on young trees is pale gray, smooth, thin and has prominent blisters that are filled with a resinous liquid known as "Canada balsam." On old trees the bark gets rougher and blisters are absent. The aromatic leaves are about 1 inch long, dark green, and shiny above with 2 rows of white stomata below. The tips are occasionally notched. On branches in full sun, leaves turn up, but on lower branches they spread out at right angles to the branch, giving it a flattened appearance.

The cones are 2–4 inches long, erect and dark purple before maturity. Cones ripen in August and September of the first year, and disintegrate shortly thereafter, leaving only the central spike-like stalks. The twigs are smooth after the leaves have shed. Winter buds are covered with clear resin. The wood is soft, light and moderately limber. It is sawed into dimension lumber chiefly for light and medium building construction, and is used extensively for pulp. Balsam fir is favored for Christmas trees and greens.

Each fall many tons of branch tips are collected for making Christmas wreaths. In the past, the branches were steamed in a retort to produce oil of balsam.



Project Canopy and Maine Forest Service Featured at GrowSmart Maine Summit 2012



Jan Santerre and Kim Ballard of Project Canopy, and Morten Moesswilde and Andy Shultz of the Maine Forest Service were all on the program at the GrowSmart Maine Summit 2012 in Augusta on October 23.

Over 400 Mainers gathered at the Augusta Civic Center on a sunny October day to network, learn, inform and inspire. Bruce Katz of the Brookings Institution was the keynote speaker for the event. "Maine has good bones, strong assets, and a solid hand to play in these dynamic, disruptive times. Play that hand well. Invest in what makes you special, invest in your places and invest in your people."

Project Canopy's Outreach Director, Kim Ballard presented in the breakout session "Downtown's are Cool Again". She discussed the benefits of street trees in downtown environments, explaining how municipalities can use trees to keep up with a growing population. Andy Shultz, Landowner Outreach Forester and Morten Moesswilde, District Forester served on the panel "Forestry Across the State" informing participants about the mission and accomplishments of the Kennebec Woodland Partnership. Jan Santerre, Project Canopy Director, provided information about the organization to attendees. "It's so motivating to talk to all the individuals involved with community development in Maine that recognize what trees and forests mean to our quality of place. Project Canopy can be the conduit to bridge the gap in funding and technical expertise that communities often have in supporting street trees or woodland stewardship."

"The wonder is that we can see these trees and not wonder more."
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Find us on the web at projectcanopy.maine.gov, on Facebook at facebook.com/ProjectCanopy or on twitter [@ProjectCanopy](https://twitter.com/ProjectCanopy)

Community Wrap-up

Update on the Oxford County Big Tree Contest

In cooperation with the MFS, the Oxford Co. Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) recently completed their first Big Tree contest for Oxford Co. Nominations for the biggest tree of each native Maine species were solicited from landowners, foresters and other interested folks in Oxford Co., similar to the state Big Tree register maintained by the Maine Forest Service for the whole state. The Ox. Co. contest started in May and finished in October, generating dozens of nominations. Some species, like White pine generated multiple nominations from different landowners. District employees, with assistance from District Forester Merle Ring, measured each of the nominations using the same point system as the state register. Winners in each species category were issued a certificate and given a Forest Trees of Maine book, and are listed on the Ox. Co. Big Tree register. A new contest will be started each spring to update the register with new nominations. An Ox. Co. Big Tree booklet has been printed for distribution listing the winners, similar to the state Big Tree booklet.

For more information contact: Jean Federico, Ox. Co. SWCD, 743-5789, Ext. 111.

Calendar

November

17 A Look at Pine Thinning Through the Years - South

Solon patty.cormier@maine.gov

20 Deer Habitat for Small Landowners - Farmington Mid-

dle School. patty.cormier@maine.gov

28 Best Management Practices & Stream Crossings for
Recreational Trails, Augusta State Airport, Maine Instru-

ment Flight wendy.somes@augustamaine.gov

December

4 Informational training session on statewide standards for
timber harvesting, Millinocket. kevin.doran@maine.gov

5 Maine License Arborist Exam, Augusta. Debbie Davis
of the Division of Plant Industries, 207-287-3891

6 Informational training session on statewide standards for
timber harvesting, Farmington. kevin.doran@maine.gov

12 Informational training session on statewide standards
for timber harvesting, Scarborough. kevin.doran@maine.gov

13 Informational training session on statewide standards
for timber harvesting - Augusta. kevin.doran@maine.gov

To read the latest Forests for Maine's Future Newsletter

<http://www.forestsformainesfuture.org/new-from-the-woods/>



Agricultural Education Day at the Farmington Fair Educates over 1100 on many Natural Resource Subjects

The Agricultural Education Day at the Farmington Fair was a success this year with over 100 elementary and middle school kids attending, as well as a larger percentage of home school groups. The event was hosted and organized by the Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District. The kids were from both Franklin and Somerset counties. Many stations were set up to educate kids on subjects such as where maple syrup comes from, how to press apples for sauce and cider, papermaking, animal husbandry, and representatives from the Maine Forest Service were there with the flume table to educate of the adverse effect of erosion to a community, as well as messages of preventing fires. Most of the stations were hands on and a big hit with the kids.



District Forester Patty Cormier mans the flume table

Have you visited our new website?

www.projectcanopy.me Check it out!

"He who plants a tree, plants a hope."

- Lucy Larcom, Plant a Tree

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
Maine Forest Service

DOUG DENICO

DIRECTOR

Forest Policy and Management Division

We help you make informed decisions about Maine forests

